

MR1891-187

Application Serial No. 10/729,953

Responsive to Office Action dated 12 January 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Office Action dated 12 January 2006. Responsive to the Office Action, Claims 1, 3-7 and 9-11 have been amended to clarify the language thereof and/or the combination of elements that form the invention of the subject Patent Application. Claims 2, 8, and 12 - 15 have been cancelled by this Amendment.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1, 11 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Angelini et al., U.S. Patent #5,222,403, and Claims 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Angelini et al. in view of Willmott et. al., U.S. Patent #4,794,731. However, the Examiner kindly indicated that Claims 2-4, 8-10, 12, 13 and 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 2 therein. Thus, Claim 2 has effectively been placed in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim, Claim 1, and any intervening claims, of which there were none. Claims 3 and 4 have been amended to be dependent on newly amended Independent Claim 1. Thus Claim 1 and the claims dependent thereon should now be allowable.

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Additionally, Claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claim 8 therein. Thus, Claim 8 has effectively been placed in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim, Claim 6, and any intervening claims, of which there were none. Dependent Claim 9 has been amended to be dependent on newly amended Independent Claim 6. Thus, Claim 6 and the claims dependent thereon should now be allowable.

Further, Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of Claims 14 and 15 therein. Thus, Claim 15 has effectively been placed in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim, Claim 11 and the only intervening claim, Claim 14. Thus, Claim 11 and the claims dependent thereon should now be allowable.

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For all the foregoing reasons, it is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed fully in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Art Unit # 3634, at (571) 273-8300, on the date shown below.
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4/12/2006
Date